

Roger served as its fourteenth President from 1991 to 1999. During his tenure, he was credited with transforming the ASPCA through the expansion of its national animal protection programs. Roger also played an integral role in strengthening the Society's public education programs and focusing on population control for animals rather than euthanizing unwanted animals. To this end, Roger decided to end the 100 year old relationship between the ASPCA and New York City in which the ASPCA collected and killed abandoned dogs, cats, and other animals for the city each year. Under his leadership, the Society also acquired and later expanded the first poison control center for Animals in the United States.

Roger was also a prolific writer, leaving a rich legacy of thoughtful writing on animal welfare issues, including seventy books. His written works cover a full range of topics, from pet care to children's books. His fictionalized biographies of individual animals in their natural habitats were loved by children around the world. And to millions of dog lovers, Roger will always be remembered as the distinctive voice announcing the Westminster Dog Show at Madison Square Garden each February.

Mr. Speaker, Roger Caras was an extraordinary man who devoted his life to ensuring that animals are treated with the respect and care they deserve. I am sure I speak for all friends of animals when I say that Roger will be truly missed. I invite my colleagues to join me in mourning the passing of this outstanding leader.

LUCE RETIRES AFTER 30 YEARS IN EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING FIELD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Charles Luce, the executive director of the Luzerne County Human Resources Development Department. Charlie is retiring after 30 years in the employment and training field and will be honored with a testimonial dinner on March 14.

Charlie is the lead staff member for the Workforce Investment Board for Luzerne and Schuylkill counties, which receives federal and state funding to provide employment and training opportunities in Luzerne and Schuylkill counties. The board also oversees the one-stop CareerLink centers in both counties. Under his leadership, the Luzerne/Schuylkill Workforce Investment Area is considered one of the best in the state.

He graduated from King's College with a bachelor of arts in psychology and sociology and the University of Scranton with a master's of science in human resources administration.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to serving the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania for the past 30 years by helping them train for the workplace, Charlie has long served his country. He is a Vietnam combat veteran as well as a veteran of the Persian Gulf War, and he is a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. He currently commands the 367th Military Police Group located in Ashley, Pennsylvania, where he is responsible for 10 subordinate M.P. units stationed throughout Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Charlie is also a community volunteer and active in many organizations. He is a member of the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, King's College Act 101, Catholic Social Services, Wilkes-Barre Area School District Strategic Planning Committee, the Reserve Officers Association, of which he is a past state president, and is currently Chairman of the Wilkes-Barre Industrial Development Authority and the Economic Development Corporation.

He is married to the former Antoinette Pucylowski, with whom he has two children.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the good works and distinguished career of Charles Luce, and I join the community he serves in wishing him all the best in retirement.

IN HONOR OF JUDGE JOSEPH BATTLE

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2001

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Judge Joseph Battle, Jr., a loyal public servant and a close personal friend, who passed away on March 11, 2001. Joseph Battle was a man who led by example and was a true bright spot in his hometown of Chester.

The grandson of Irish immigrants and son of a roofer, Joseph Battle was a lifelong resident of the City of Chester. Joseph graduated from Notre Dame with honors and received his law degree in 1962 from the University of Pennsylvania, where he was the recipient of the prestigious American Jurisprudence Award for Excellence in Local Government.

Joseph served his country bravely as an officer in the U.S. Army in Korea. Joseph's outstanding duty was recognized when he was awarded the Commendation Medal for Meritorious Service.

With strong academic record and proven service to his country, Joseph could have taken his life experiences anywhere he wanted to. However, Joseph returned home to the City of Chester where he continued to serve his community. In 1980, Joseph was elected Mayor of Chester, a position he held until 1986.

An honest and caring man, Judge Battle had a joke and made everyone feel at ease. As Mayor of Chester, he helped clean up a city that was marred with a reputation of corruption. Today, Chester is undergoing a renaissance after years of hard times. Many of the improvements we see today can be traced back to changes he made two decades ago. Joe worked tirelessly to repair the name of the city he loved to serve.

Joe did not stop there, he continued to serve his community and Delaware County. Joe ran for county sheriff in 1985 and won by a huge margin. He served in that office until 1987 when he was appointed to the Common Pleas Court port by the late Gov. Robert Casey.

Judge Battle leaves us at the young age of 63. At the time of his passing, he was serving as the President Judge of Delaware County, a post he held with pride and honor.

Joseph was a kind and compassionate man, he as also a man of his word. One example makes the point. As a young man, Joseph promised to take care of his mother, a promise that he kept long after the death of his father.

This Weekend, My Congressional District lost a leader. The City of Chester lost a loyal champion. I lost a friend. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in a tribute to Joseph Battle for his selfless dedication to his community and his country.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CITY OF OAK CREEK WATER AND SEWER UTILITY

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Oak Creek, located in my district, for the outstanding work the city's Water and Sewer Utility has done on the Oak Creek Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project. The city, along with the Milwaukee office of CH2M Hill, Inc., is being honored by the American Consulting Engineers Council at its 2001 Engineering Excellence Awards here in Washington, D.C. tonight.

Using Aquifer Storage and Recovery technology pioneered by CH2M Hill, Inc., the Oak Creek Water and Sewer Utility will store treated surface water in deep wells in the Sandstone Aquifer, where it will be available in the summer to meet seasonal demands. Use of this technology will allow the utility to cut its annual costs in half.

Oak Creek is on the cutting edge, Mr. Speaker. This new well is the first of its kind in the state, and by all accounts it's been a rousing success, and I'm pleased to be able to commend them today for receiving this honor.

I'm also very proud to announce that the city's water was recently named the best tasting purified water in the world by the judges at the 11th Annual Berkeley Springs International Water Testing Contest.

I want to recognize the hard work of all the staff at Oak Creek Water and Sewer Utility, especially Dan Duchniak, Assistant Manager of the Utility, and former Manager Don Ashbaugh, who are in Washington tonight to receive the award. Kudos as well to Oak Creek Mayor Dale Richards for his leadership in this project.

TRIBUTE TO THE CARROLLTON LADY HAWKS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2001

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Carrollton Lady Hawks who recently won the Illinois High School Association Class A basketball tournament. The Lady Hawks swept the tournament, winning all three games, and brought back their first state championship.

It was a great finish to a near perfect season. The Lady Hawks went an amazing 34-1